

Note on a new gold coin of Mahmúd Sháh bin Muhammad Sháh bin Tughluq Sháh, of Dihlí.—By J. G. DELMERICK, Esq., Dihlí.

(With a woodcut.)

Muhammad bin Tughluq Sháh died, according to Ziá i Baraní, near Tattah, on the 21st Muharram, A. H. 752; and three days after his death, Shams i Siráj relates that Fírúz Sháh assumed the robes of sovereignty in camp, and shortly after marched viâ Dípálpúr and Sirsá to Dihlí.

In the meanwhile, at Dihlí, Khwájah Jahán, a relation of the late king and Governor of the Capital, on hearing of the death of Sultán Muhammad, placed a boy, aged six years, a son of the late king, upon the throne. The name of this son is not given by either Ziáuddin Baraní or Shams i Siráj, who both write of him as a pretended or supposititious son. Several other Historians whose works I have consulted, are also silent as regards his name or title, but both are correctly given in the *Khulácat ut-Tawárikh* of Suján Rái K'hatri, a comparatively modern compilation. My edition of *Firishtah* erroneously calls him Muhammad, the same as his father. *Firishtah*, however, thought that there was strong reason for believing that the child set up at Dihlí by Khwájah Jahán was actually a son of Muhammad bin Tughluq.

Fírúz Sháh marched to Dihlí, and on his approaching the city, Khwájah Jahán finding that nearly all the adherents of the young king had forsaken him, and joined the popular aspirant, went out himself to Fathábád to meet Fírúz Sháh and to obtain forgiveness.*

Fírúz Sháh personally wished to forgive him, for he was a very old man; but it was deemed impolitic to do so by the royal advisers, and he was therefore decapitated.

The fate of the child, the hapless pageant of royalty, is unknown and has not been recorded; but it is not improbable that he, too, like his aged relative, Khwájah Jahán, met with a tragic end.

Fírúz Sháh entered Dihlí on the 22nd Rajab, 752.



* *Vide* page 285, Vol. III, of Elliot's *Muhammadan Historians*, by Dowson.

GOLD COIN. Rare, A. H. 752.* Weight, 170 grains.

OBVERSE— يميدن امير المومنين غياث الدنيا والدين

REVERSE— محمود شاه بن محمد شاه بن تغلقشاه السلطان

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* When the coin was exhibited at the April Meeting of the Society, Mr. Blochmann took the date of the coin to be 754, A. H., and interpreted the issue as pointing to an unsuccessful rebellion in Dihlí during the absence of Fírúz Sháh in Bengal; *vide* Proceedings, April, 1874. He also stated that another specimen was in the possession of General Cunningham, C. S. I., who, in 1872, had described it in one of his letters to the Society. Mr. Delmerick has now procured a third specimen, the date of which is distinctly 752 A. H. THE EDITORS.